



But No Elephants (Once Upon a Time)

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Grandma Tildy lived all alone, until a salesman stopped by to sell her a pet. She welcomed a canary bird into her home, but made it very clear that she wanted NO ELEPHANTS! This heart-warming children's book, written and illustrated by Jerry Smath, will delight parents and children from beginning to finish.

But No Elephants (Once Upon a Time) Details

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Author : Jerry Smath

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From Reader Review But No Elephants (Once Upon a Time) for online ebook

Kendra Loch says

But No Elephants has been my favorite children's book from the day that I got it-about 18 years ago!

One day, a salesman came to her house selling pets and asked her if she would like to buy a canary bird. Grandma says her famous lines, "Very well. But no elephants!" The canary sang for Grandma Tildy and gave her company.

The next few days the pet man came again and again and Grandma continued to buy pets with her phrase "Very well. But no elephants!" But soon an elephant was all that was left and the salesman left it outside for Grandma, even though she didn't want it. The days were getting colder and colder and soon snow came and the elephant was finally allowed to come in.

A favorite of mine showing that there is a purpose for everyone and everything.

Cheryl says

I'm glad I kept this on my list until I found a new library to join. It's one of those magically nostalgic classics, a 'sleeper' or 'cult' favorite, if you will. Kids, including child me, get a true kick, and feel the wonder of being able to empathize with the old lady, the pet salesman, and the critters too. There are also some neat details in the pictures; for example I love the smaller critters in bed, and the overalls the grandma changes into to cut wood. If you actually have kids or grandkids, you might actually want to buy this. If you don't, get it from your library, and if they don't have it, ask them to buy it. (Refer them to GR reviews to persuade them!) Btw, it's also Vegan-friendly. I will consider more by the author.

Dolly says

This is a humorous story about a little old lady who ends up with a variety of pets. All of the animals have a particular talent that helps the household, but the elephant is so big - what can he do? It's a fun tale and our girls really liked the ending.

But the question I pose is she an animal hoarder? She fits the profile: single, lonely older woman. I just finished the book *Stuff: Compulsive Hoarding and the Meaning of Things* and I know it will change the way I look at things for a long time!

Laura says

So cute & silly, and a winner for my animal loving little boy.

J. Boo says

Pleasant little kids book about an elderly lady who is an itinerant pet salesman's best customer, willing to buy all the animals he trots out for her, BUT NO ELEPHANTS. Not a spoiler to guess with what she eventually winds up. The kids have been requesting it multiple times, so good all around.

Me: 3/5

DS#1 (age 5) & DD (age 3): 4/5

Megan says

I used to love this book as a child. This little old lady buys just about every type of animal from a salesman. Every time she refuses to buy the elephant though. Eventually the salesman just leaves the elephant on her front door. It rains and snows and finally she lets him come in. He turns out to be a real help to her...and well its just a charming book :)

Maggie Stiefvater says

I know this isn't a new book, but it is still hands-down my three-year-old's favorite bedtime story. He will listen to this book back to back night after night. In between the old woman who takes on every animal but an elephant, the pet salesman who tries to foist the elephant upon her, and the various ways the animals help her, there's lots of opportunities for funny voices and sound effects. Definitely a keeper.

wondering why all my reviews are five stars? Because I'm only reviewing my favorite books -- not every book I read. Consider a novel's presence on my Goodreads bookshelf as a hearty endorsement. I can't believe I just said "hearty." It sounds like a stew.

Mona says

My parents received this book through a mailing subscription list (it was like Netflix but with kids' books, back in the 1980s), and it became an all-time favorite book in our house. My older sister loved it, I loved it, my younger brother loved it.

My dad says he still remembers how vigorously we all three would shake our heads at the repeated line of the story, "But no elephants!" He said he can't wait to read it to the future grandkids. Good thing we kept it!

Rachel says

This has been my favorite book since I was really little I give it 100,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 stars out of 5 READ IT!!

Ruth says

this was one of my favorite books when I was a kid!

Kristie says

Cute little children's story about how everyone is special and helpful in their own way.

Dianna says

"Grandma Tildy lived all alone. She worked hard every day. She had no time to play."

Then the pet man comes and eventually filters off all his pets to her, including the elephant she adamantly refuses. The elephant breaks the house and eats all the food. What will Grandma Tildy and her pets do? The elephant finds a solution.

This was a childhood favorite of mine and now my son loves it as well. Not a word is out of place, and the illustrations are charming, with just the right amount of detail.

Sara Grochowski says

A forever favorite!

Carrie Stephens says

One of my ALL time favorite childhood books.

Kim says

read this book to my son when he was little. he liked the book
